

REMARKS

Claims 58 to 63 now are pending in the subject application, the independent claims being Claims 58 and 60. Claim 1 to 57 previously have been cancelled. Claims 58 and 60 have been amended.

In the Official Action dated September 22, 2003, Claims 58 to 63 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b), as anticipated by Japanese Publication No. 06-231023 (Saito). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection respectfully are requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

The rejection of the claims over the cited art respectfully is traversed. Nevertheless, without conceding the propriety of the rejection, Claims 58 and 60 have been amended more clearly to recite various novel features of the present invention, with particular attention to the Examiner's comments. Support for the amendments may be found in the original application. No new matter has been added.

The present invention relates to a novel recording device and method. In one aspect, as now recited in independent Claim 58, the present invention relates to a recording device for recording at least one of image data and voice data on a detachable recording medium. The recording device comprises selecting means for selecting a generation condition of image data or voice data, generating means for generating image data or voice data in accordance with the generation condition selected by the selecting means, retrieving means for retrieving information pre-recorded in the detachable recording medium for determining a file name, file name determining means for determining a file name by combining a character, selected in accordance with the generation condition selected by the selection means, and a serial number, in accordance

with the pre-recorded information retrieved from the detachable recording medium, and recording means for recording, on the detachable recording medium, a file including the image data or voice data generated by the generating means using the file name determined by the file name determining means.

Independent Claim 60 recites similar features with respect to a method for recording image data or voice data on a detachable recording medium.

In each aspect, an advantage provided in the structure/method is that information pre-recorded in the detachable recording medium is retrieved, and a file including image data or voice data thereafter is recorded in the detachable recording medium using a file name determined by combining a character (selected in accordance with a generation condition of the image data or voice data selected by a user) and a serial number in accordance with the pre-recorded information retrieved from the detachable recording medium. In this manner, as disclosed in greater detail in the present application, information exclusive to a user may be stored/pre-recorded in each respective, detachable recording medium, and can be changed for each detachable recording media, when plural users share a single operational apparatus (e.g., camera). Thus, each user can easily and reliably manage his/her voice or image files without interference by other users. Moreover, multiple attribute information for respective multiple users does not have to be distributed to and stored in multiple storage media or operational apparatuses to provide service for multiple users.

Applicant submits that the prior art fails to anticipate the present invention. Moreover, Applicant submits that there are differences between the subject matter sought

to be patented and the prior art, such that the subject matter taken as a whole would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made.

The JP '023 reference relates to an information recorder, and discloses a system and method for determining a file title for storing a data file in a detachable recording medium. However, Applicant submits that the JP '023 reference fails to disclose or suggest at least the above-described features of the present invention. Rather, the JP '023 reference is understood to disclose an operation unit of a digital still camera by which a user may by manual operation input information for determining a file name. Nowhere is the JP '023 reference understood to disclose or suggest at least the features of recording data having a file name determined by information for determining a file name pre-recorded in the detachable recording medium, in accordance with a data generation condition selected by a user, as disclosed and claimed in the present application.

Nor is the remaining prior art of record understood to disclose or suggest the above-discussed features relating to file name determining information pre-recorded in a detachable memory or recording media, in accordance with a data generation condition selected by a user, or to add anything to the JP '023 reference that would make obvious the claimed invention.

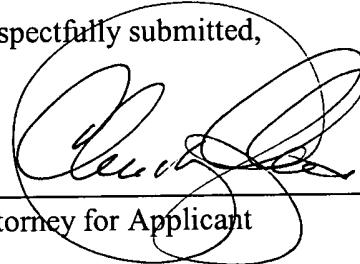
For the above reasons, Applicant submits that independent Claims 58 and 60 are allowable over the cited art.

Claims 59 and 61 to 63 depend from Claims 58 and 60, and are believed allowable for the same reasons. Moreover, each of these dependent claims recites additional feature in combination with the features of its respective base claim, and is

believed allowable in its own right. Individual consideration of the dependent claims respectfully is requested.

Applicant believes that the present Amendment is fully responsive to each of the points raised by the Examiner in the Official Action, and submits that the Application is in allowable form. Favorable consideration of the claims and passage to issue of the present application at the Examiner's earliest convenience respectfully are requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,


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